MINUTES

—OF THE—

FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Troy Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH—

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH,

TROY, ALA.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND AND 3RD, 1887.

OFFICERS:

W. H. BARNETT,	Moderator.
W. F. BEARD,	Clerk.
M. A. WOOD,	Treasurer.

TROY, ALA.:
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1887.

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MINUTES.

FRIDAY—MORNING SESSION.

TROY, ALA., September 2nd, 1887.

The Fourth Annual Session of the TROY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION was held with the First Baptist church of Troy, Ala., on Friday, the 2nd day of September, 1887.

The Association was called to order by Bro. W. H. Barnett at 11 o'clock a. m., who read the 23rd Pslam, after which Eld. W. H. Adams lead in prayer.

Bro. John Freeman having died since the last session, on motion, brother W. F. Beard was elected temporary Clerk. The Introductory Sermon was postponed until 8 o'clock to-night.

Eld. W. B. Crumpton and brother C. W. Hare made some appropriate remarks in the interest of State Missions and the *Alabama Baptist* respectively. Upon motion, brethren Crumpton and Hare were recognized as members of this Association representing their respective interests.

On motion, the Association then adjourned to meet again at 3 o'clock p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Association called to order by the Moderator. Letters from the First Church of Troy, Shiloh church, Orion church and Olustee church were read by the Clerk, and the roll of the present delegates was corrected and adopted.

Election of officers being in order, the Moderator appointed brother T. J. Carlisle and Elder N. C. Underwood as tellers. The vote resulted in the election of Bro. W. H. Barnett, Moderator; brother W. F. Beard, Clerk, and brother M. A. Wood, Treasurer.

Bro. Barnett returned thanks to the Association for their confidence in him, by again electing him as Moderator.

The Moderator appointed as a Committee on Devotional Exercises, Elders J. F. Purser, A. N. Worthy, L. H. Bowles and brother B. W. Starke.

On motion of brother J. P. Wood, the order of business, as adopted by the first session of this Association, was adopted for this session.

On motion of Elder A. N. Worthy, the regular order of business was suspended and the standing committees appointed at last session amended as follows :

On Home and Foreign Missions—L. H. Bowles in place of J. M. Bean.

Foreign Missions—Brother Byron Yarbrough in place of J. S. Carter.

On Temperance—J. F. Lawson, W. S. Coleman and Samuel Fleming in place of J. S. Yarbrough, J. S. Brinkley and J. M. Bean.

On Education—W. L. Hendrick in place of W. H. Kelly.

On Bible and Colportage—B. W. Starke and E. H. Locke in place of H. C. Cosby and D. B. Murphree.

On Indigent Ministers—Byron Yarbrough and Hale Talbot in place of F. E. Adams and and J. E. Coskrey.

On Ministerial Education—J. F. Purser.

On Education—L. H. Bowles.

Home and State Missions—W. B. Crumpton.

Foreign Missions—J. L. Youngblood.

The above committees were instructed to prepare their reports for the present session.

Visiting brethren invited to seats with us and to participate in our debates. Regular order of business resumed. Chair appointed the following committees to report at this session :

On Finance and Auditing—D. Graham, M. A. Wood, B. W. Starke, John Lawson, J. S. Brinkley.

Documents and Requests—W. L. Hendrick, J. M. Carter, A. N. Worthy, E. H. Locke, T. J. Shepard.

Nominations—J. L. Youngblood, W. S. Coleman, J. H. Sessions, Hale Talbot, J. O. Brown.

Call for Correspondence—Brother W. H. Adams and brother

Williams from Evergreen Association report that all the churches in their Association revived during the last year.

Elders W. B. Crumpton from the State Board and C. W. Hare from Montgomery Association; brother Gamble of Helicon church; Elder N. C. Underwood and brother T. J. Carlisle from Salem church.

Regular order suspended and Return Correspondence taken up.

On motion of brother T. J. Youngblood that any members of any of the churches comprising this Association, who may attend any of the Associations that we are in correspondence with, shall be authorized to act as return correspondents, the following named brethren volunteered to act as such:

To Evergreen Association—R. B. Parks, J. L. Youngblood, A. N. Worthy, T. J. Shepard.

To Montgomery Association—W. H. Barnett, J. M. Carter, J. S. Brinkley, R. A. Barnett.

To Centennial Association—J. F. Purser, D. Graham, Byron Yarbrough.

To Eufaula Association—M. A. Wood, J. P. Wood, J. O. Brown, J. F. Purser.

On motion of Eld. J. F. Purser, the subject of Missions was set for 11 o'clock to-morrow.

Committee on Devotional Exercises report that Eld. W. B. Crumpton will preach the Introductory Sermon at the Court House to-night at 8 o'clock.

On motion, the Association then adjourned to meet again at 8½ o'clock to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY—MORNING SESSION.

Association called to order by the Moderator, and Eld. E. A. Stone, by request, conducted the devotional exercises.

The Moderator then read out the following standing Committees to report at next session, to-wit:

On Education—J. M. Dill, B. W. Starke, J. O. Pierson, T. K. Brantley, L. H. Bowles.

On Bible and Colportage—J. L. Youngblood, J. F. Purser, T. E. Hill, Samuel Fleming, R. B. Parks.

On Indigent Ministers—John P. Hubbard, T. J. Shepard, John Lawson, D. Graham, W. F. Beard.

On Home and Foreign Missions—L. H. Bowles, E. H. Wood, J. S. Brinkley, J. H. Sessions, W. S. Coleman.

Foreign Missions—A. N. Worthy, D. Graham, Byron Yarbrough, E. H. Locke, T. K. Brantley.

On Sabbath Schools—J. F. Purser, T. E. Hill, J. O. Pierson, J. M. Carter, J. H. Sessions.

On Temperance—J. M. Carter, Byron Yarbrough, Samuel Fleming, J. P. Wood, G. W. Andrews.

Visiting brethren again invited to seats with us. Eld. J. F. Purser welcomed brethren E. A. Stone and S. W. Averette, of the Judson Female College, and Eld. E. Y. Van Hoose.

Minutes read and approved. Committee on Home and State Missions made the following report, which was read by Eld. Purser and laid over until 11 o'clock.

It is very gratifying to be able to report that for Home and State Missions, for the success of which your prayers are so frequently heard and your means more or less liberally expended, very much has been accomplished, through the liberality of the churches, but much remains to be done before we can cease our labors in this direction. The first missionary labor performed by the first gospel preachers, under the direction of our Lord, was in Palestine, and they were especially required to confine their labors within the limits of that country: "Not to go in the way of the Gentiles." So, we conclude that the Master would have us to first cultivate the home field, and then go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

Your Committee would by no means intimate that Foreign Missions should be neglected. Only let us, in our contributions, not suffer one duty to trench upon another, and never forget that we have "the Greeks at our door."

We are glad to be able to state that the wise and efficient plans adopted by the Alabama State Convention, are bearing precious fruit, and being crowned with happy results. Nothing remains for the churches to do, but to "strengthen the hands of the brethren," and, at no distant day, our labors shall, under God, be crowned with success. We can and must "possess the land." A. N. Worthy, Chairman.

Committee on Sabbath Schools made the following report:

Your Committee on Sabbath Schools reports three Sabbath Schools within our bounds in good healthy condition, but not much progress since last report. We urgently recommend to all our Baptist brethren the great importance of attending these Schools. W. L. Hendrick, Chairman.

Upon the question of adopting this report, brother E. A. Stone said:

"The Sunday School is really the Church at work. Perhaps not all church members can attend the Sunday School, but every christian can put himself into vital sympathy with the School. The outside children should be gathered

in. This is real mission work—and then every parent should know the kind of work done in the School. To this end, the parent should teach his own children at home, and then should know the Sunday School teacher's religious experience and fitness for the work. No parent can afford not to know what the children are taught and by whom taught in the Sunday School. God has given the duty of training children to parents, and for the way they meet this, He will hold them responsible at the great judgment day."

Report adopted.

Committee on Documents and Requests made a report, which was recommitted, and brother J. P. Wood added to the Committee.

Committee on Education made the following report:

Your Committee is glad to state that the cause of Education is steadily advancing, and note the increased demand for facilities in every respect. The institutions under the control of our denomination, commend themselves to us, and demand our support and patronage.

We suggest that the endowment of Howard College be made an object to which our churches contribute regularly. We commend it to our brethren for the education of their boys, and the Judson and Central Female Institute for their girls. These institutions, by their own merits, have made themselves worthy of our patronage.

The steps taken for the education of young ministers are being crowned with success; but without aid from the churches they can do nothing. We recommend our brethren to remember this most important work. We urge upon them the importance of denominational education, in its effects upon our children and the denomination in the future. Respectfully submitted.

E. H. Wood, Chairman.

Further remarks on this subject postponed until 8 o'clock to-night at the Court House.

The Committee on Foreign Missions made the following report, and the hour of 11 o'clock having arrived, Eld. W. B. Crumpton delighted the congregation with an able speech on the subject of Missions, pleading earnestly and eloquently for every man, woman and child to do their whole duty on this line.

It is with feelings of pride that we note the growing interest of Baptists everywhere in the Foreign Mission work. Year by year, the number who say, "Charity begins at home," is growing less. We are understanding more fully what Christ meant when he said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Our churches seem to believe that "there is that scattereth abroad and yet increaseth." There are many things to encourage us in the Foreign Mission work. Nearly $90,000 were received by our Board last year—$12,000 more than was ever before given in a single year by Southern Baptists. Baptists in foreign lands gave $4,000 for mission work last year. This should stimulate us to be more liberal and active, since these so recently converted from heathenism and sin feel the duty of carrying the gospel to the regions beyond. God is most wonderfully blessing all our missions. Each week tidings of great joy come to us from Mexico, Brazil, China and Africa, all pointing toward the time when nations shall be born to God in a day. In this work are one hundred and sixteen devoted men and women, missionaries under whose labors many are being brought to know the world's Redeemer. These fellow-helpers greatly need our faithful prayers

and our financial support. And that our members and their children may more fully understand the work of the foreign missionaries, we recommend that the *Foreign Mission Journal* be placed in every family. This is a monthly paper, published under the auspices of the Board, containing letters each month from the various fields of labor. We note that our State Board has asked for an increased amount from this Association for this work, the ensuing year. We recommend that the amount asked for be raised, and that a committee be appointed to suggest the amount to be paid by each church of this Association. Respectfully submitted.

J. P. Wood, Chairman.

Report of the Committee adopted, and the Association adjourned to meet again at 3 o'clock p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Association called to order by the Moderator. On motion of Eld. J. L. Youngblood, the regular order of business was suspended and a committee of five, with L. H. Bowles as chairman, was appointed to draft suitable resolutions in regard to the death of brother John Freeman.

Committee consisted of the following named brethren: L. H. Bowles, A. N. Worthy, M. A. Wood, J. L. Youngblood and Samuel Fleming, who reported as follows:

IN MEMORIAM.

This Association is called to mourn the loss by death of Brother John Freeman, former Clerk of this body, and a well known and useful citizen of Pike county, Alabama.

Brother Freeman departed this life on the 29th day of December, 1886, and was, at the time of his death, fifty-two years, one month and six days old. He espoused the cause of Christ in his mature manhood, and put on Christ by baptism in the summer of 1864, since which time he exemplified the beauties of the christian religion by his well-ordered life and Godly conversation; and his pious life was a standing rebuke to those of his brethren who were less careful to adorn the doctrine they profess. His life was, indeed, a "living epistle, known and read of all men." He was a member of Troy First Baptist Church and one of its active deacons, using his office well.

For many years the people called him by their suffrages to the important county office of Tax Assessor, the duties of which were by him most faithfully and satisfactorily discharged. From these earthly offices of church and county, he has doubtless been promoted to fill a much higher and happier position in the general assembly and church of the first-born on high.

In the sad and solemn hours of sorrow, in her bereavement, it may be comforting to our well beloved sister, upon whom the loss of our brother falls most heavily, to be assured of the fact that the hearts of his surviving brethren go out in great sorrow and sympathy for herself and eight fatherless children. Of these last, it is most gratifying to know that some of them have already "turned their feet to the testimony of the Lord." And we do most

sincerely, as an Asssociation, commend the widowed mother and orphan children to God and the "word of his grace."

L. H. Bowles, Chairman.

Committee on Temperance reported as follows :

Your Committee on Temperance reports the gratifying fact that the habit of indulgence in alcoholic drinks, as a beverage, is fast falling into disuse; and hail with delight, the good time coming, we think, in the near future, when it will be comparatively unknown. Whatever causes may have been operating to bring about this happy state of things, it cannot be denied that public opinion has been the most important factor. It is not only unfashionable, but, in the estimation of a growing and influential class, it degrades a man and lowers his standing in the community, to be seen frequenting the dens of iniquity where whisky is sold.

The churches of this Association will doubtless continue to throw every obstacle, and the full force of their influence against rum shops and their attendant evils, until they shall be exterminated.

John Lawson, Chairman.

After appropriate remarks by brethren L. H. Bowles and C. W. Hare, the report was adopted.

Report of Committee on Indigent Ministers :

Your Committee on Indigent Ministers submit the following report: Under the guardian care and protection of our heavenly Father, no one of His servants is in indigent circumstances, within the knowledge or bounds of this Association. Respectfully submitted.

Hale Talbot, Chairman.

Committee on Documents and Requests reports as follows :

Your Committee on Documents and Requests, on examination, find nothing of importance claiming the attention of this body except fixing the place of holding its next session. We respectfully suggest that this body convene with the Orion church, on Friday before the first Sabbath in September, 1888.

W. L. Hendrick, Chairman.

Report received and adopted.

Committee on Finance and Auditing reports as follows :

From	Troy	Church,	for	Missions,	Vouchers,	$166 54
"	"	"	"	Minutes,	Cash,	9 00
"	Shiloh	"	"	Missions,	Pledges,	40 00
"	"	"	"	Minutes,	Cash,	4 00
"	Olustee	"	"	Missions,	"	8 50
"	"	"	"	Minutes,	"	1 50
"	Orion	"	"	Missions,	Vouchers,	6 00
"	"	"	"	"	Cash.	1 20
"	"	"	"	Minutes,	"	1 60
	Total,					$238 34

All of which has been turned over to the Treasurer.

D. Graham, Chairman.

Committee on Nominations reports as follows :

Your Committee on Nominations beg leave to offer the following report: To preach the Introductory Sermon at next Association, brother L. H. Bowles,

brother Byron Yarbrough, alternate. To attend State Convention, brethren W. H. Barnett, J. F. Purser, A. N. Worthy, J. L. Youngblood, L. H. Bowles, J. M. Dill, J. P. Hubbard, J. P. Wood, B. W. Starke, E. H. Locke, J. S. Yarbrough, M. A. Wood, W. F. Beard.

J. L. YOUNGBLOOD, Chairman.

Report adopted.

Committee on Bible and Colportage submitted the following report:

Your Committee is pleased to report that great efforts are being made for the distribution of Bibles and religious literature. The State Mission Board has a Depository at Marion, under the supervision of its Secretary, where Bibles and other religious books and Sunday school literature can be had at publishers' prices. We recommend that our churches and Sunday schools patronize the Depository, addressing W. B. Crumpton, Marion, Ala.

J. L. YOUNGBLOOD, Chairman.

Report adopted.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Missions was discussed by brethren L. H. Bowles and J. L. Youngblood, and adopted.

The Moderator appointed a committee to apportion the amount asked for by the State Board as follows: J. P. Wood, R. B. Parks, J. H. Sessions, J. S. Brinkley. The committee made the following report.

First Church of Troy,	$175 00
Shiloh "	50 00
Orion "	15 00
Olustee "	10 00
	$250 00

The Treasurer reports as follows:

M. A. Wood, in acount with Troy Association.

—Dr.—		
To Amount on hand last report,	$ 5 60	
" " Cash and Vouchers, Finance Com.	202 60	
" " Sabbath Collection, H. C.	12 10	$220 30
—Cr.—		
By Error in Orion's report,	$ 4 00	
" Cash paid for Minutes,	16 00	
" " " W. B. Crumpton	66 70	
" Vouchers First Church,	121 10	
" Cash paid G. A. Nunnalee,	12 10	
" " " for Post Office Order,	40	$220 30

We have examined the above report and find it correct.

D. GRAHAM,
Ch'n Fin. Com.

A resolution of thanks was offered by brother M. A. Wood, to the First Church of Troy for their hospitality, and the Presby-

terian Church for the use of their building. Resolution adopted and ordered spread upon the minutes.

Committee on Religious Exercises made the following report, which was adopted :

Your Committee recommend the following named brethren to fill the various pulpits on Sunday, to wit : First Baptist—Rev. N. C. Underwood at 11 o'clock a. m., Rev. W. B. Crumpton at night. Methodist—Rev. E. A. Stone at 11 o'clock a. m., Rev N. C. Underwood at night. Second Baptist—Rev. Byron Yarbrough at 11 o'clock a. m., Rev. E. A. Stone at night.

J. F. PURSER, Chairman.

Adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, and the Moderator announced the business of the meeting to be the further consideration of the report on Education.

Brother L. H. Bowles having been heretofore appointed to address the body on this subject, after a few remarks, introduced Elder E. A. Stone, of Marion, who, for nearly an hour, held spellbound the very large and appreciative audience, besides the Messengers of the Association. Only those who have heard this distinguished scholar and divine, can possibly estimate the masterly presentation of this subject, and the delight and satisfaction, as well as the positive benefits conferred by this address.

Eld. W. B. Crumpton followed in a well conceived and timely address. He brought before the Association the duty of this body to provide for the ministerial education of our young brother, Byron Yarbrough, who has recently been set apart to the gospel ministry, and in less time than it takes to write it, the pledges were made to provide the means for his support.

The Association then adjourned to meet with the Orion church on Friday before the first Lord's day in September, 1888.

W. H. BARNETT, MODERATOR.

W. F. BEARD, Clerk.

SABBATH EXERCISES.

The pulpits of the various churches were filled on Sunday, agreeably to the report on religious exercises by the Committee on Preaching, on Saturday afternoon, to-wit: Rev. E. A. Stone at the Methodist church at 11 o'clock a. m., and the Second Baptist church at night. Rev. Byron Yarbrough preached at the Second Baptist church at 11 o'clock a. m. Rev. N. C. Underwood filled the pulpit of the First Baptist church at 11 o'clock a. m., and the Methodist pulpit at night. Rev. W. B. Crumpton preached for the First Baptist church at night. The congregations were large and the several congregations were edified and expressed their delight with the services. We trust that much good was accomplished by the faithful proclamations of gospel truth on this day long to be remembered by the people of the Troy Association.

W. F. Beard, Clerk.

TABULAR STATEMENT.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Baptized	Rec'd by Letter.	Restorations	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Died	Total Members' p	FINANCES. Minutes	Home & Foreign.	Missions. State
First Church of Troy	J. F. Purser	27	18	1	7		2	315	$ 9 00		$179 54
Shiloh	T. H. Stout	22	7	1	12		4	182	4 00		40 00
Orion	J. F. Pursér	23	6	1	7			80	1 60		7 20
Olustee									1 50		8 50
		72	31	3	26	00	7	577	$16 10		$235 24